



Airband Initiative

Connecting the unconnected

Presentation to Washington State Senate Committee on Rebuilding the Economy
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Airband Initiative mission - connect the unconnected

We partner with equipment makers, internet and energy access providers, and local entrepreneurs to make affordable broadband access a reality for unserved communities around the world.

3 Million

People projected to be covered in rural **U.S.** by July 2022

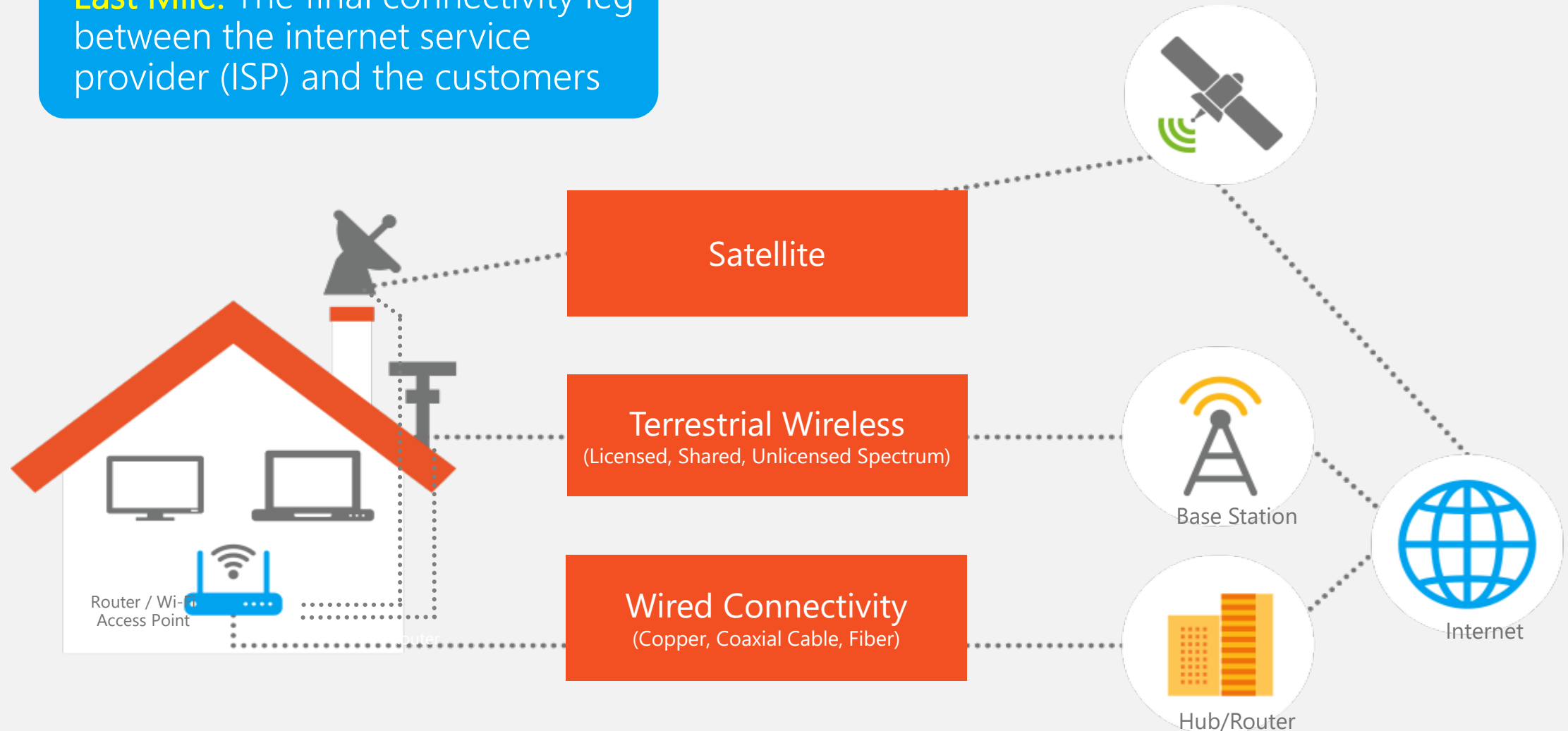


Airband efforts in Washington State

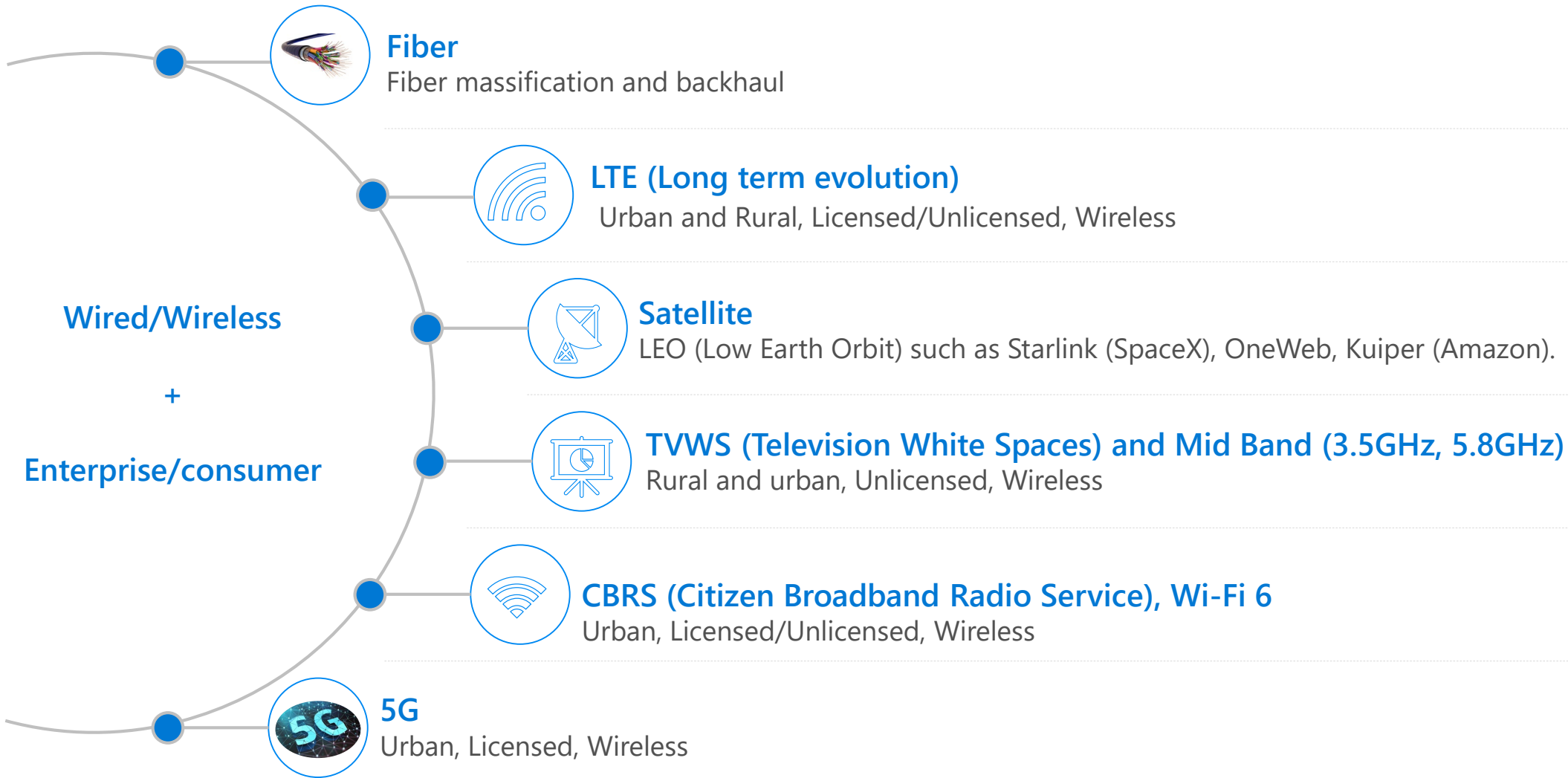
- **Declaration Network Group (DNG):** is an alternative broadband access provider leveraging disruptive technology to deliver high capacity access services with significant cost and performance advantages. DNG's Airband project in Washington will bring connectivity to Ferry and Stevens Counties. As part of the work with DNG, we have engaged with Columbia Cedar, the largest employer in Ferry County, on a project to promote data-driven business practices utilizing PowerBI and Azure. Building upon the emergency response demonstration network, DNG is engaged with the work in Stevens and Ferry Counties to bring connectivity to Pre-positioned Fire Camps (PPFCs), starting with the Addy Fire District in Stevens County.
- **TV Association of Republic (RTV):** RTV has leveraged our initial grant to expand broadband access in Curlew Lake. We have awarded an additional grant for RTV's purchase of TVWS equipment to further extend connectivity in Ferry County.
- **Native Network:** Native Network constructs and deploys wireless internet access networks to provide affordable hybrid and fixed wireless broadband internet access to tribal communities in Washington State, including Swinomish Tribe and Lummi Nation. Native Network is dedicated to supporting Native American Tribes and their Lands by providing broadband connectivity to these communities.
- **Expanding Airband Footprint:** In addition to the partnerships with the above ISPs, the Microsoft Airband Initiative has created the Airband ISP Program. Designed as a self-service extension of the Airband initiative, we have 28 ISPs that have signed up for the Airband ISP Program that are receiving preferential pricing on TVWS equipment, tower leases, fiber, digital skills content, and discounts on billing and operations software.

Internet Connectivity – Last Mile Solutions

Last Mile: The final connectivity leg between the internet service provider (ISP) and the customers



Existing and Emerging Technologies



Technology selection depends on use cases, coverage, and capacity requirements

A person with curly hair is seen from the side, sitting at a desk and working on a laptop. In the background, a large projector screen is visible, displaying a grid of horizontal lines. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, yellowish glow from the left side, possibly a window or a lamp. The overall atmosphere is quiet and focused.

Questions?

An aerial photograph of a vast, forested mountain landscape. In the foreground, a dense forest of trees with autumn-colored foliage (yellows, oranges, and browns) covers a steep slope. A small, white, lattice-like structure, likely a cell tower, stands out among the trees. In the background, a large, calm body of water (a lake or bay) stretches across the horizon, with several small, forested islands visible. The sky is overcast with soft, grey clouds.

To learn more, visit microsoft.com/airband or email vickie.robinson@microsoft.com